GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4922
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2000
EU CONCERN OVER TERRORISM
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in an endorsement of New Delhi`s concern over Pakistan sponsored cross border terrorism, the European Union has stated that Islamabad should be asked to stop infiltration from their side of the Line of Control into India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the European Union Development Affairs Commissioner has also urged the Pakistan to desist from helping the terrorists;

(d) if so, whether the European Parliament adopted a resolution blaming the activities of cross border terrorists in Kashmir and have called India and Pakistan to refrain from any provocation and respect Line of Control;

(e) if so, whether the Union Government have welcomed this change on the part of European Union in regard to the terrorism; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a)&(b) The European Union and India have shared concern on international terrorism. The joint press statement issued at the conclusion of the India-EU Troika Ministerial Meeting in Helsinki on December 3, 1999, stressed the importance of international co-operation to successfully combat international terrorism.

(c)&(d) A resolution adopted by the European Parliament on March 16, 2000, referred to the continuing violations of human rights in Kashmir and called on India and Pakistan to refrain from provocation and to respect the Line of Control in order to create an atmosphere conducive to talks about all outstanding issues between India and Pakistan, including Kashmir and involving the population concerned. In the debate on this resolution, Mr. Poul Nielson, the European Commissioner for Development & Humanitarian Aid, stated that `Pakistan should be asked to put a stop to infiltration of para-military personnel crossing over from their side of the Line of Control` and that`India should be encouraged to look for and explore the full potential towards internal political solutions to meet the expectations of the Jammu & Kashmir population in line with the possibility for enhanced autonomy as enshrined in its Constitution`.

(e)&(f) Government have emphasised the need for international co-operation to check the menace of international terrorism to the European Union.